

**REMARKS**

Pending claims 2, 9 and 15 are allowed.

The Office Action provides that the application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

1. In the Abstract of Disclosure. The Office Action objected to the Abstract because it is more than 150 words. According to the foregoing the Abstract is replaced. Withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract is respectfully requested.

2. In the Specification. The Office Action in view of MPEP 608.01-VII objects to the specification, because it contains an embedded hyperlink and/or other form of browser-executable code. However, MPEP 608.01-VII also provides that hyperlinks should not be objected to where the links themselves rather than the contents of the site to which the hyperlink is directed are necessary to be included in the patent application in order to meet the requirements of 35 USC 112, first paragraph, and applicant does not intend to have those hyperlinks be active links.

Applicants hereby assert that the Applicants do not intend to have the hyperlink on page 4, line 21, of the present Application to be an active link, and the link itself is for meeting the requirements of 35 USC 112, first paragraph. Further, according to the foregoing, the specification is amended as follows: -- ~~http://www.bluetooth.com~~ a World Wide Web site at bluetooth.com-- so that the included hyperlink is disabled and not readily interpretable by a web browser as an active live link. Withdrawal of the objection to the specification is requested. Further, it is respectfully requested that the Office disable this hyperlink.

3. In page 2, items 4 and 5, the brief description of the drawings and the drawings are objected, because the drawings figures and the brief description of the drawings do not coincide. The Office Action in page 2, item 4 provides that the Amendment filed 11/29/00 amended the brief description of the drawings to only include Figures 1, 2A, 2B, 2C and 2D without reference to Figures 3A, 3B, 4-8.

However, the Amendment filed November 29, 2000, which was a Preliminary Amendment filed before examination of the present application, was a total of 2 pages, and on

the second page of the Amendment, which is also the signature page of the Amendment, the brief description of the drawings did include a reference to Figures 3A, 3B and 4-8. A copy of the Preliminary Amendment of November 29, 2000 (2 pages), including the USPTO stamped postcard evidencing filing of the same (1 page), is attached hereto.

Accordingly, either withdrawal of the objection to the specification and the drawings is requested, or entry of the Preliminary Amendment filed November 29, 2000 is respectfully requested to overcome the objection to the specification and the drawings.


**CONCLUSION**

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

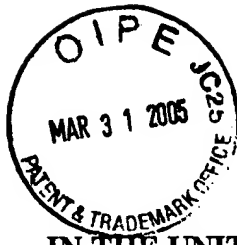
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

Respectfully submitted,  
STAAS & HALSEY LLP

Date: March 31, 2005

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Docket No. 1538.1003 (JDH)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:

Kazumi HAMAGUCHI, et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned

Group Art Unit: Unassigned

Filed: November 29, 2000

Examiner: Unassigned

For: MEMBER REGISTRATION SYSTEM

**COPY**

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please AMEND the specification as follows:

Page 3,

lines 10-21, please delete existing lines 10-21, and replace with the following:

--Fig. 1 is a diagram showing an overview of a system according to the present invention;

Fig. 2A is a diagram showing example data stored in retail store information storage unit;

Fig. 2B is a diagram showing example data stored in message storage unit;

Fig. 2C is a diagram showing example data stored in member information DB;

Fig. 2D is a diagram showing example data stored in purchase information DB;

Fig. 3A is a diagram showing example data stored in personal information DB;  
Fig. 3B is a diagram showing example data stored in registered retail store DB;  
Fig. 4 is a flowchart showing the member registration processing;  
Fig. 5 is a diagram showing an example virtual town (before member registration);  
Fig. 6 is a diagram showing an example virtual town (after member registration);  
Fig. 7 is a flowchart showing the transaction processing; and  
Fig. 8 is a flowchart showing the point value reference processing.--

**REMARKS**

This Preliminary Amendment is submitted to correct typographical errors in the specification as originally-filed.

It is respectfully requested that this Preliminary Amendment be entered in the above-referenced application.

If any further fees are required in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

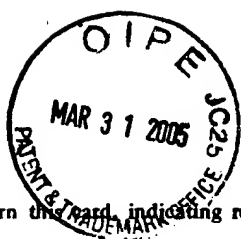
Respectfully submitted,

STAAS & HALSEY LLP

By: 

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Please return this card, indicating receipt date and Serial No., if applicable, of the following

New Utility Appln. Transmittal (23 pgs. spec., including 19 claims and 1 pg. Abstract,  
9 shs. fml. dwgs.), Preliminary Amendment, Certified copy of Jp. 2000-217271  
filed 07/18/00 (pri. doc). executed Declaration and Assignment. \$950.00 filing  
fee (w/excess claims) and \$40 (assignment recordal fee) check

**Applicant(s):** Kazumi HAMAGUCHI, et al.

**Title:** MEMBER REGISTRATION SYSTEM

**Serial No.:** To be assigned

November 29, 2000

**Filing Date:** 1538.1003 (JDH)  
12/31/00

**Docket No.:**

**Due Date:**

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11/29/00

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